



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

**STATEMENT OF DECISION**

Request for a Reprieve by Stanley Williams

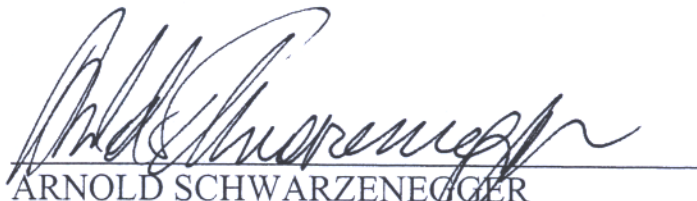
Stanley Williams was convicted by a jury of four murders and sentenced to death. At the request of the People, the trial court has scheduled Williams' execution for December 13, 2005.

Counsel for Williams has submitted a letter requesting a reprieve.<sup>1</sup> This request is based on statements that were recently obtained from individuals who did not testify at trial. Williams' counsel claims these statements are exculpatory. This is not an accurate claim. These statements do not cast serious doubt on the jury's decision that Williams is guilty, because his conviction was based on ballistics evidence and multiple witnesses who gave overlapping and corroborating testimony.

Williams' counsel also requests a reprieve because the California Legislature might pass a law next year suspending the death penalty. But the people of California have enacted a death penalty statute, and my clemency decision must be based on the law as it now exists, not on speculation of how it might change in the future.

There is no reason to delay Williams' execution. Accordingly, the request for a reprieve is hereby denied.

DATED: December 12, 2005

  
ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER  
Governor of the State of California

<sup>1</sup> Williams' counsel requests a "stay," but the Governor's clemency power includes only pardons, commutations, and reprieves. (Cal. Const. Art. V, Section 8(a).) We therefore interpret Williams' request as one for a reprieve.